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FREE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES AT THE MUSIC CENTER AND GRAND PARK OFFER ANGELENOS A WAY TO MAKE SUMMER 2016 EVEN BETTER, TOGETHER

L.A.'s Largest Free July 4th Celebration – *Grand Park + The Music Center's 4th of July Block Party* – Returns with All-New Fireworks Display Over the Skies of Downtown

LOS ANGELES (April 26, 2016) – [The Music Center](#) announced its free summer programming line-up with a variety of events and activities that are ideal to share with family and friends outdoors on The Music Center Plaza and in [Grand Park](#). Offering something for everyone to enjoy, L.A.'s premier performing arts destination and the centrally located park will make this a summer to remember. With a brand new fireworks display that will light up the Downtown L.A. skyline, **Grand Park + The Music Center's 4th of July Block Party** expands to include entertainment on The Music Center Plaza. This summer will also see the return of audience favorites, including **The Music Center's Dance DTLA**, featuring Dance Downtown and specially curated DJ Nights; **Grand Park's Sunday Sessions**; **Grand Park's Bootcamp**; and **¡LUNCHTIME! Food Trucks**. Those who enjoy performances under the stars will appreciate Grand Park's presentation of **Theatre Dybbuk's production of *Exagoge*** along with the continuation of **Grand Park's PROUD** series with a picnic and screening of *Moulin Rouge!*

"With the explosive growth of Downtown Los Angeles, The Music Center has seen even greater demand for ways Angelenos can join together to experience fun, entertaining and special moments outdoors," said Rachel Moore, president and CEO of The Music Center. "Both The Music Center Plaza and Grand Park have become highly popular choices for people looking to spend their summer days and nights at distinctive events and presentations in a beautiful, welcoming setting," she added.

Lucas Rivera, director of Grand Park, offered, "Together, The Music Center and Grand Park teams work hard to reach out to all corners of Los Angeles and its diverse communities with highly accessible opportunities where people of all ages can celebrate, relax, learn and experience something amazing, and this summer is no exception."

The Music Center and Grand Park's free summer programming line-up in chronological order includes:

The Music Center's Dance DTLA

Most Fridays from June 3-September 2, 2016

Including Dance Downtown, 7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. and DJ Nights, 8:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Back for the 12th year, [The Music Center's Dance DTLA](#) is an evening of dance under the stars on The Music Center Plaza or in Grand Park on most Friday nights in the summer months, from June-September, 2016. The series features *Dance Downtown* (7:00 – 11:00 p.m.), where participants can learn new dance moves in a judgment free zone with a different dance genre for each event, and alternating DJ nights (8:00 – 11:00 p.m.), curated by influential artists and tastemakers who will give voice to the dynamic, vibrant L.A. culture through music, dancing, arts and aesthetics.

– more –

The series includes:

- June 3 – *Dance Downtown: Bollywood*/The Music Center Plaza
- June 10 – DJ Night, curated by Garth Trinidad/The Music Center Plaza
- June 24 – *Dance Downtown: Line Dancing*/The Music Center Plaza
- July 1 – DJ Night, curated by Money Mark/The Music Center Plaza
- July 8 – *Dance Downtown: Cumbia*/Grand Park
- July 15 – DJ Night, curated by Rashida/The Music Center Plaza
- July 22 – *Dance Downtown: Argentine Tango*/The Music Center Plaza
- July 29 – DJ Night, curated by Alberto Lopez/The Music Center Plaza
- August 5 – *Dance Downtown: Salsa*/The Music Center Plaza
- August 12 – DJ Night, curated by Anthony Valadez/The Music Center Plaza
- August 19 – *Dance Downtown: Samba*/The Music Center Plaza
- August 26 – DJ Night/curator TBD/The Music Center Plaza
- September 2 – *Dance Downtown: Disco*/The Music Center Plaza

Grand Park + The Music Center's 4th of July Block Party

Monday, July 4, 2016

2:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Grand Park + The Music Center's 4th of July Block Party returns for the fourth year with a beautiful day in the park and on The Music Center Plaza including picnics, play, music, dancing and a completely new fireworks show. L.A.-based artists on three stages will honor L.A.'s unique cultural identity as an American metropolis with many origins. Music will include electronic beats, rock 'n roll, jazz and funk. The event will feature a free facilitated play area for kids ages 4-14 with themed tag, soccer, parachute play for the younger ones and more. The public can purchase food from more than 30 food vendors. The event will culminate in a dazzling new fireworks show set to patriotic music. (Note: This is an alcohol-free event.)

Grand Park Presents Theatre Dybbuk's Production of "Exagoge"

Saturday, July 23, 2016

8:00 p.m.

In another example of Grand Park's tradition of summertime theatre under the stars, Grand Park will present a new production by L.A.'s Theatre Dybbuk called *Exagoge*. A performance built around the remaining fragments of the first recorded Jewish play and written in the style of a Greek tragedy by Ezekiel the Poet in the 2nd Century B.C.E., *Exagoge* is a story about seeking refuge and finding home, themes that resonate both regionally and globally. Theatre Dybbuk actors will be joined by the Leimert Park Choir, comprised of children and young adults, who will integrate music into the performance. The groundbreaking performance is presented in partnership with Temple Israel of Hollywood, The Fowler Museum at UCLA, the Dortort Center for Creativity in the Arts at UCLA Hillel, and The Music Center/Grand Park.

Grand Park's Sunday Sessions

Sunday, July 31, 2016; Sunday, August 21, 2016; Sunday, September 11, 2016

Noon-7:00 p.m.

Little kids, teens and grown-ups alike will find Grand Park's Sunday Sessions a fun, healthy way to spend a summer afternoon, dancing in the park to the soaring sounds and beats of a best-of-L.A. line-up of dance music DJs. Grand Park's Sunday Sessions presents the best of the Southern California dance music community. Guests can attend a free yoga class set to music at the start of the event and enjoy a juice bar operated by Pattern Bar. In addition to picnicking, guests can purchase food from food trucks and enjoy the sounds of summer in a beautiful setting right in the middle of the city. (Note: This is an alcohol-free event.)

Grand Park + Outfest Present: PROUD Picnic and Movie Night

Saturday, August 6, 2016

6:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. (Screening begins at 8:30 p.m.)

Grand Park continues its series of intimate events that invite the Los Angeles LGBTQ and ally communities to celebrate and connect with each other. The fourth in the PROUD Series, Grand Park will partner with Outfest and Outfest Fusion to present a picnic and screening to mark the 10th anniversary of *Moulin Rouge!* Guests arriving early can enjoy a late summer afternoon in the park and the sounds of the Gay Freedom Band in concert with the Colburn Adult Wind Symphony, as well as food trucks along with the park's popular splash pad and playground. The screening will begin with shorts from the Outfest Fusion lineup.

GRAND PARK FAVORITES

Grand Park's Bootcamp

Tuesdays: July 12-August 30, 2016

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Visitors to Grand Park can not only explore the entire park but get a free workout at the same time at Grand Park's Bootcamp, presented by Grand Park in partnership with Operation Bootcamp. Open to all and appropriate for all fitness levels, this free series is a fun way to connect with others and enjoy the outdoors, making an end-of-day workout accessible and fun.

¡LUNCHTIME! Food Trucks

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays

Lunch trucks on Olive Court (between Grand Avenue and Hill Street) & the Marketplace (between Spring Street and Broadway)

11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Grand Park spices up the lunch options on Bunker Hill by providing downtowners and park visitors a wide variety of food trucks three days per week. Trucks are parked in two locations in the park: on Olive Court, between Grand Avenue and Hill Street, and in the Marketplace, between Broadway and Spring Street.

For more information about free summer programming at The Music Center Plaza and at Grand Park, visit

musiccenter.org/summer #itsbettertogether Follow The Music Center on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram

(@MusicCenterLA) Follow Grand Park on Facebook (GrandParkLosAngeles), as well as Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat (@GrandPark_LA).

About The Music Center

The Music Center is L.A.'s home to the world's greatest artistic programs and events. With four iconic theaters and four renowned resident companies – Center Theatre Group, the LA Master Chorale, the LA Opera and the LA Philharmonic, and recognized for its illustrious dance programming, Gloriosa Kaufman Presents Dance at The Music Center – The Music Center is a destination where audiences find inspiration in the very best of live performance, as well as nationally recognized arts education and participatory arts experiences. For more information, visit musiccenter.org Follow The Music Center on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat (@MusicCenterLA).

About Grand Park

A vibrant outdoor gathering place, Grand Park is a beautiful public park for the entire community in Los Angeles County. With expansive green space for gatherings large and small, Grand Park celebrates the county's cultural vitality and is host to community events, cultural experiences, holiday celebrations, and many other activities that engage and attract visitors from all communities. The 12-acre Grand Park stretches from The Music Center on the west to City Hall on the east, and is easily accessible by Metro via the Red/Purple line to the Civic Center/Grand Park station. The park was named one of American Planning Association's 10 "Great Public Spaces" in the U.S. for 2013. Working closely with the county, The Music Center is responsible for all operations and programming for the park. For more information, visit grandparkla.org Follow Grand Park on Facebook (GrandParkLosAngeles), as well as Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat (@GrandPark_LA).

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